'White Paper' on the activities of Railways

†2405. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to publish any 'White Paper' on activities of her Ministry during the last five years;

(b) the time by when it would be published;

(c) whether it would include foreign agreements;

(d) whether the irregularities in the election of the unions would be mentioned;

(e) whether it would contain details about the expenses incurred on Katra-Kajigund plan in Kashmir and delay in its completion; and

(f) whether it would contain reasons for not reaching the train services to North- Eastern States except Tripura?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A White Paper will be published within the current financial year.

(c) to (f) The White Paper will bring out Indian Railways' present organizational, operational and financial status based on its performance in the last five years. Specific items to be included in the White Paper are under finalization.

Promotion of sports by Railways

2406. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of assistance/incentives given by the Railways for the promotion of sports; and

(b) the amount spent for the purpose during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Indian Railways provide employment, out-of-turn promotion, advance increments on meritorious performances, cash awards, financial assistance etc. to Indian Railway sports persons for their participation in National and International Championships. Indian Railways has also developed its own sports infrastructure all over the country.

(b) No separate account is maintained on expenditure on salaries, allowances, awards, training, infrastructure, increments and promotions provided to the sportspersons.

Restricting the e-ticket/i-ticket reservation

2407. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether in view of railway reservations being totally availed of by e-ticket/i-ticket facility holders on the opening day itself, as tickets can be booked from 05.00 hrs. to 23.30 hrs., thereby

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

denying availability of reservation for common man standing before the counters, as tickets can be booked only from 08.00 hrs. to 20.00 hrs., the Ministry contemplates any proposal to restrict e/ticket/i-ticket reservations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): On the opening day of the reservation, the reserved accommodation available in a train is thrown open simultaneously at 0800 hours to all passengers including those booking through internet as well as across the counter at computerized Passenger Reservation System Centres. The passengers booking through internet can book the accommodation during the period beyond the working hours of normal Passenger Reservation System counters only for those trains which have already been thrown open for booking. At present, there is no proposal under consideration to restrict e-ticket/i-ticket reservation.

Extra work by 'C' class gatemen

2408. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 'C' class gatemen, who are residing beyond 0.5 kms. from their place of work are also required to work extra 24 hours in a week at par with those who are provided with residential accommodation within 0.5 kms. from their place of work;

(b) whether railway servants (Hours of Work and Period of Rest) Rules-2005 stipulates 12 additional hours per week for those who are not provided accommodation within 0.5 kms. radius of the place of work; and

(c) whether Ministry would curtail this practice which is against rules or compensate them suitably?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The Railway Servants (Hours of Work and Period of Rest) Rules, 2005 dealing with fixation of hours of work of railway servants provide that as per the rostered hours of work for 'Gatemen C, they can be called upon to work 24 additional hours per week irrespective of the distance where residence is provided.

(c) There is no such proposal since the provision is as per the extant rules.

Late running of Gwalior to Barauni, Chapara Mail

†2409. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gwalior to Barauni, Chapara Mail runs about 12 hours late from last two three years;

(b) the reasons for late running of this train and whether the railways is suffering revenue loss due to it; and

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